

LOWCOUNTRY PEDS

PAGE 02

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS

LOWCOUNTRY PEDIATRICS, P.A.
Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine

964 Ribaut Road, Suite 1
Beaufort, SC 29902
(803) 524-5437

APR 25 1 58 PM '97

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness,

As a school board member and an advocate for children in Beaufort, S.C., I would like to voice my support for the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan currently being presented to your commission.

The benefit of this plan to our educational system, to our individual schools, and most importantly to our students is certainly apparent. This plan is a solid investment in the future of our children and, therefore, our society.

Thank you for your considerations.

Sincerely,



Dr. Joseph Floyd

JF/bd


Santee School District
"WHERE YOUNG MINDS MEET OPEN DOORS"

April 22, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

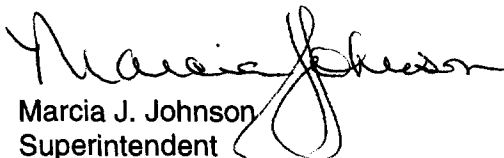
Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all students will have affordable access to the internet and distance-learning opportunities. As Superintendent of Santee School District, a suburban district in San Diego county, I personally lend my strong support for the "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms. This program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow. Santee School District is a small district with approximately 8,400 students and our Board of Education is dedicated to a plan for wiring classrooms and purchasing computer workstations. We are committed to providing our students with the best learning environment and tools available. The "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Marcia J. Johnson
Superintendent

MJJ:as

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Cathy Abel, Dianne El-Hajj, Julie McIntosh, Sandy Pugliese, Barbara Ryan
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT: Marcia J. Johnson

SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT: 9625 Cuyamaca Street, Santee, California 92071-2674 • (619) 258-2300

April 14, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

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MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket Number 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a classroom teacher from Lee's Summit, MO, R-7 School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Maxwell

APR 20 11 21 AM '97

COMM-FED

**Learning
Resources
Center**

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Punxsutawney Area School District

North Findley St. Punxsutawney, PA 15767 (814) 938-5151

April 21, 1997

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MAY 1 1997

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS
APR 28 4 26 PM '97

The Honorable Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

As Director of Learning Resources for our rural school district in central-western Pennsylvania, I would like to thank you for your efforts in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. Since our schools are located thirty miles from the nearest academic library of any size (Indiana University of Pennsylvania), it is imperative that our students have a way to obtain the necessary information for research, class projects, and personal growth and development in terms of career objectives and higher education. Thus, we have been doing as much as we can to keep up with technology—a hard task considering the expense and lack of financial resources with which we must deal as a reality of operating a school system.

Although grant funding has made it possible for us to obtain some computers, software, and essential networking hardware, it is imperative that we have an economical way of utilizing the Internet and World Wide Web so our students can gain maximum benefit from having access to technology.

The Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board Discount Plan will guarantee that our district, which in many ways, is disadvantaged, will have the opportunity to bring services to our classrooms where our students are learning. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to our young people's future.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services as soon as possible. My colleagues and I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,



Gerald Gigliotti,
Director, Learning Resources

MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

RR 1 BOX 314
HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 16651

James J. Lebda, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

Scott E. King
Assistant Superintendent

Cheryl L. Pataky
High School Principal

Thomas C. Snyder
Elementary Principal

April 25, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

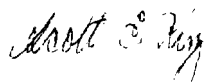
Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am the Assistant Superintendent of the Moshannon Valley School District which is a small and rural district in central Pennsylvania. Working in the fiscal area, I can state that costs have been exceeding revenues which has forced us into the position of raising property taxes the last several years.

New developments in the area of technology are essential for preparing our students for the world of work but because of our budget situation must be carefully weighed against required expenditures. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will help provide the opportunity for school districts to connect to the Internet and enhance distance learning. Students will benefit in the classroom but the inclusion of internal connections for discounts is vital for a district such as ours that is so concerned about controlling costs.

We would like our students to be able to begin using the Internet in the 1997-98 school year but need the telecommunications discounts to make this economically feasible. Please support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Scott E. King

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
CHIEF OF
STAFF
APR 28 4 26 PM '97



Grass Valley School District

Jon C. Byerrum
Superintendent

Linda Brown
Ass't. Superintendent

10840 Gilmore Way
Grass Valley, CA 95945-5409
(916) 273-4483
Fax (916) 273-0248

Bell Hill School
(916) 273-6416

Hennessy School
(916) 273-2281

Scotten School
(916) 273-6472

Lyman Gilmore Middle School
(916) 273-8479

Grass Valley Charter School
(916) 273- 8723

April 22, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Ness,

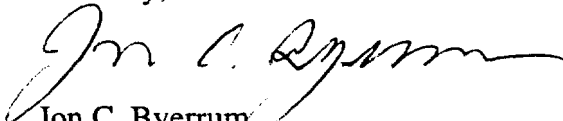
I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am the superintendent of the Grass Valley School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

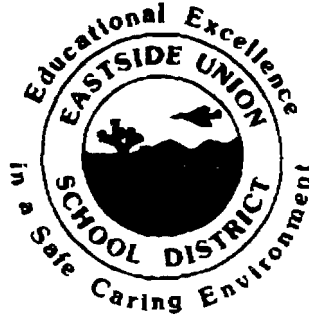
Sincerely,


Jon C. Byerrum
Superintendent

JCB:bb

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION
MAY 20 11 26 AM '97

Constance E. Webb
Superintendent



Board of Education

Mr. Larry Lake, President
Mr. Willard Ritchie, Vice President
Mrs. Martha D. Johnson, Clerk
Mrs. Janette T. Crawford, Member
Mrs. Ida Ward, Member

April 18, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner (California)
Federal Communications Commission
FAX #202-418-2820
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regard to the Federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Rate Program. I am a locally elected school board member from the Eastside Union School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and most importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classroom where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the implementation of discounts on internal classroom connections should not be eliminated nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations requiring the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Willard L. Ritchie

Board of Trustees
Eastside Union School District



Arcadia Unified School District

234 Campus Drive • Arcadia, California 91007 • (818) 447-9223 • Fax (818) 821-8647

Governing Board
Mary E. Dougherty
Maryann Gibson
Michael D. Lamb
John R. McClain
Joann E. Steinmeier

Superintendent
Terrence M. Towner, Ed.D.

April 22, 1997

Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20544

FILED

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Arcadia Unified School District and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the side of the Universal Services Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Joann E. Steinmeier
President of the Governing Board

APR 26 4 20 PM '97

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
MAY 1 1997



Spartanburg County School District Three

Post Office Box 267 • Glendale, South Carolina 29346 • (864) 579-8000

Share The Pride

Jim Ray, Ph. D.
Superintendent

April 23, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am Superintendent of Spartanburg County School District Three, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

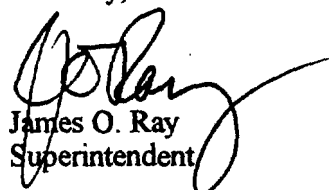
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-rate discounts will give our district the opportunity to take advantage of this vast and far-reaching tool called the Internet. Our students, teachers, and surrounding community will benefit in so many ways that this letter can only scratch the surface. Students can gain instant access to the knowledge base of not only our local colleges like Wofford but distant universities like Harvard. Students and teachers will be able to consult with other students, teachers and professionals from around the world. Teachers will be able to enrich their lesson plans with so many resources that it is really not comprehensible. Teachers will send E-mail to parents about their child's achievements and areas for improvement every day if necessary. A new avenue of communication will be created between the district and the community through E-mail and World Wide Web pages. This will allow the district to keep parents and community members better informed about policies and happenings in the district. Hopefully this will create a feeling of ownership within the surrounding community so that our district may benefit from more community participation. The opportunities created by Internet access are really only limited by the imagination of those who use it.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

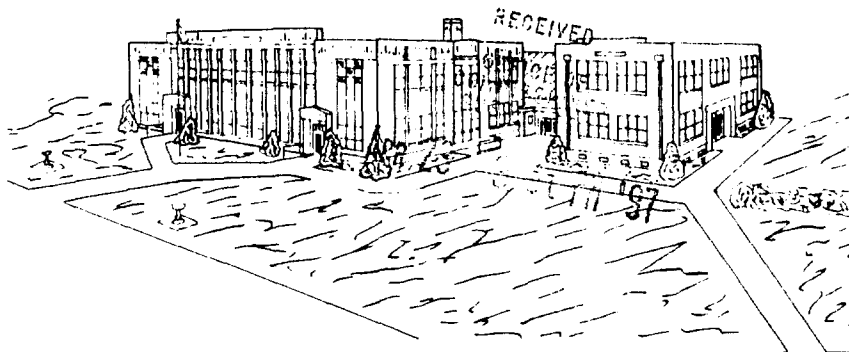
Thank you.

Sincerely,


James O. Ray
Superintendent

JOR/jt

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
JUN 11 1997
APR 26 4 22 PM '97



CEDAR RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 218
408 Dayton Street
CEDAR RAPIDS, NEBRASKA 68627-0218

Elementary School	308-358-0732
Jr.-Sr. High School	308-358-0640
FAX Number	308-358-0211

Marshall Tonnies, Superintendent

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Scott Robinson, Principal

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a superintendent from the Cedar Rapids Public School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Cedar Rapids Public School District is part of the Tri-Valley Distance Learning Consortium which is applying for a lottery grant for distance learning. We need the subsidy in order to be able to afford distance learning.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marshall Tonnies
Superintendent

16 MAY 1997

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0012038



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



April 8, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

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MAY 1 1997

APR 23 3 23 PM

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN HARRIS

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ann Chasse

APR 29 5 51 PM '97

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN HARRIS

RECEIVED

the Information
Technology andTelecommunications
Association

April 28, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

Re: Ex parte contact in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness:

TCA, the Information Technology and Telecommunications Association has recently been informed that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering a proposal that would increase the Subscriber Line Charge for business lines, and impose a new charge, a Federal Equitable Recovery Charge or FERC, of approximately \$4.50 per month per line on multi-line business customers to support extending telecommunications capabilities to schools, libraries and rural health care facilities. While the FCC is considering imposing these new charges on business, (which for the 475 member companies of TCA would conservatively amount to over \$50 million in additional charges) the Commission has not and is not considering the long overdue action of moving the cost of local access services closer to true cost.

While we support, in principle, the initiative to bring telecommunications facilities to schools and libraries for increased access, we are concerned that the FCC is not balancing the cost of this initiative with: 1) the current economic position of the incumbent Local Exchange Carriers which in most instances will be the beneficiary of both use of this subsidy funding to install these services, and will also receive the income from the use of these services; 2) a number of states either have enacted or are in the process of establishing programs to support telecommunications access for schools, libraries, etc., and 3) there is no evidence that ubiquitous competitive entry into the local exchange is forthcoming, and the proposed FERC does nothing to drive rates closer to true cost, and only entrench the philosophy of socialized rate making requiring business customers to subsidize other classes of service.

We urge you not adopt the proposed FERC or any other initiative which increases already uneconomic rates without a true rate reform proceeding by the FCC with the objective of driving rates closer to actual cost.

Sincerely;

A.A. "Scoop" SAIRANEN
President - Elect

74 New Montgomery
Suite 230
San Francisco, CA
94105-3411

415/777-4647
415/777-0295 fax

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY

PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

601 SEQUOIA PACIFIC BOULEVARD
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-0282
(916) 657-9903



April 28, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 832
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997 VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Ness:

Re. Ex parte contact in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 96-262

We have recently been informed that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering a proposal that would increase the Subscriber Line Charge for business lines, and impose a new charge, a Federal Equitable Recovery Charge or FERC, of approximately \$4.50 per month per line on multi-line business customers to support extending telecommunications capabilities to schools, libraries, and rural health care facilities. While the FCC is considering imposing these new charges on business (as well as in our case government entities), the Commission has not and is not considering the long overdue action of moving the cost of local access services closer to true cost.

While we support, in principle, the initiative to bring telecommunications facilities to schools and libraries for increased access, we are concerned that the FCC is not balancing the cost of this initiative with: 1) the current economic position of the incumbent Local Exchange Carriers which in most instances will be the beneficiary of both use of this subsidy funding to install these services, and will also receive the income from the use of these services; 2) a number of states, including California, either have enacted or are in the process of establishing programs to support telecommunications access for schools, libraries, etc., and 3) there is no evidence that ubiquitous competitive entry into the local exchange is forthcoming, and the proposed FERC does nothing to drive rates closer to true cost, and only entrench the philosophy of socialized rate making requiring business customers to subsidize other classes of service.

I urge you not adopt the proposed FERC or any other initiative which increases already uneconomic rates without a true rate reform proceeding by the FCC with the objective of driving rates closer to actual cost.

Sincerely,

ALLAN G. TOLMAN, Chief
Telephone and Network Services

AGT:SS:pr/hundt@x.doc

Familian corp

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 28, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Re: Ex parte contact in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 96-262

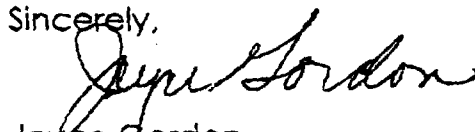
Dear Chairman ;

We understand that the FCC is considering a proposal to increase the business line Subscriber Line Charge and to impose a new charge, reportedly called FER0, of at least \$4.50 per line per month to support extending new telecommunications capabilities to schools, libraries and rural health care facilities. At the same time that it is considering imposing these new costs on American businesses, we are told that the Commission will not take the long overdue step of bringing rates closer to the true economic cost of local access services.

I urge you not to adopt the foregoing proposals which would, in effect, impose a new tax on American businesses, regardless of whether it is characterized as a "rate balancing" or "modification of rate structures". With all due respect, we believe that the imposition of such nationwide educational and health care initiatives should be considered on a comprehensive basis by all interested authorities, not just as a telecommunications matter by the FCC.

The time has come for the Commission to reform its rules governing access charges, which are more than \$3 billion a year higher that they should be. All consumers, businesses as well as residential, deserve protection from excessive monopoly prices. The Administration's social policy agenda should be addressed in other ways and not get in the way of these reforms.

Sincerely,



Joyce Gordon
Communications Administrator

CC96-45



Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education

351 SOUTH HUDSON AVENUE, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91109
AREA CODE 818 • TELEPHONE 795-6981

MS. LISA H. FOWLER
DR. JACQUELINE M. JACOBS
MR. GEORGE A. PADILLA
MRS. ANNE PURSEL
REV. GEORGE VAN ALSTINE

APR 28 4 04 PM '97

JAMES OUELLO

FILED

MAY 1 1997

April 22, 1997

Mr. James Ouello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Ouello:

I am writing as a Member of PUSD's Board of Education. The program the FCC is considering which would start an "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program would go a long way to help PUSD bring much needed skills to its students in this urban setting. It has become clear to me that in order to be sure our students are competitive as adults they must be comfortable with and knowledgeable about the Internet and E mail. It is up to the schools since most of our families do not own computers.

Please support the program with no reduction in size and the proposed regulations. Specifically, we need the inclusion and discounts of internal classroom connections as our budget is inadequate to the task.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne W. Pursel, Member
Board of Education

AWP:eh



Bushnell-Prairie City Community Unit School District #170

845 North Walnut Street • Bushnell, Illinois 61422

• ADMINISTRATION •

Lynn Hartweger, Supr.
Unit Office 309/772-9461
Fax 309/772-9462

Jerry Merrick, Prin.
High School 309/772-2113

Ray Krey, Prin.
Junior High 309/772-3123

APR 28 4 07 PM '97
Steve Russell, Prin.
Elementary 309/772-9464
Fax 309/772-9466
JANESVILLE

April 23, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a Superintendent from Bushnell-Prairie City C.U.S.D. #170 in Bushnell, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District #170 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynn Hartweger, Superintendent
Bushnell-Prairie City C.U.S.D. #170

• BOARD OF EDUCATION •

Linda L. Hensley, Pres. • Howard L. Daniels, V.P. • Crystal A. Bedwell, Sec. • Ken A. Curtis • Layne McKee • Karen Keener • Jeff Bryan

LEE E. RIECK
Superintendent
(412) 325-7600

ROSEANN B. NYIRI
Director of Pupil and Personnel Services
(412) 325-7601 or (412) 325-7603

JACK SAMUELS
Director of Instructional Services
(412) 325-7606

JANE TACHOIR
Director of Secondary Program Services
(412) 325-7605

WILLIAM J. KRUCK
Director of Business Services
(412) 325-7608



Franklin Regional School District

3210 School Road
Murrysville, Pennsylvania 15668

April 24, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

JUDITH C. JOHNS
Administrative Assistant
Special Education Services
(412) 325-7601

PATRICIA A. ANZUR
Supervisor of Child Accounting/
Transportation Services
(412) 325-7607

WILLIAM J. GALLAGHER
Supervisor of Accounting/
Purchasing Services
(412) 325-7608

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a Director of Instructional Services at the Franklin Regional School District. I am writing to thank you for your support with the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan.,

This plan will ensure that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all schools. These plans will ensure that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. Also, they are able to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn, and provide distance-learning opportunities.

Your inclusions of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow. We will continue to use the money to implement our technology plan to supplement our local funds for staff development. Our students are in need of substantial discounts this year.

I fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, and I urge the FCC to do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Muto
Supervisor of Technology Services

MAY 1 1997

LEE E. RIECK
Superintendent
(412) 325-7600

ROSEANN B. NYIRI
Director of Pupil and Personnel Services
(412) 325-7601 or (412) 325-7603

JACK SAMUELS
Director of Instructional Services
(412) 325-7606

JANE TACHOIR
Director of Secondary Program Services
(412) 325-7605

WILLIAM J. KRUCK
Director of Business Services
(412) 325-7608



Franklin Regional School District

3210 School Road
Murrysville, Pennsylvania 15668

April 24, 1997

JUDITH C. BRAGGINS
Administrative Assistant for
Special Education Services
(412) 325-7601

PATRICIA A. ANZUR
Supervisor of Child Accounting/
Transportation Services
(412) 325-7607

WILLIAM J. GALLAGHER
Supervisor of Accounting/
Purchasing Services
(412) 325-7608

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner James Quello:

I am a Director of Instructional Services at the Franklin Regional School District. I am writing to thank you for your support with the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan.,

This plan will ensure that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all schools. These plans will ensure that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. Also, they are able to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn, and provide distance-learning opportunities.

Your inclusions of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow. We will continue to use the money to implement our technology plan to supplement our local funds for staff development. Our students are in need of substantial discounts this year.

I fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, and I urge the FCC to do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jack Samuels
Director of Instructional Services

MAY 1 1997

RECEIVED

APR 26 4 02 PM '97

400 Central Park West - 5P
New York, NY 10025
April 23, 1997

JAMES H. QUELLO

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Room 844
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

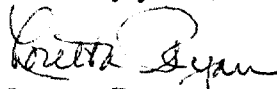
Dear Commissioner Quello:

As a social studies teacher at the Calhoun School in Manhattan, I would like to thank you for your work with the Federal Communications Commission. I am concerned, however, that the Telecommunications Act may not continue to include the proposed education rate, which would provide affordable access to the Internet and the World Wide Web for all schools and libraries.

Today's technology can provide rich resources for students. Unfortunately, it can also serve to widen the gap between the "haves" and the "have nots." It is imperative that we, as educators and policy makers, do not further contribute to this bifurcation. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The discount will address the needs of all schools, and the inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

Our students--those at Calhoun and at schools throughout New York City--need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the FCC to support fully the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely yours,


Loretta Ryan

RR 1 Box 285
Houtzdale PA 16651
April 22, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 28 3 58 PM '97

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

JAMES QUERO
RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

RE: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a Technology Coordinator from Moshannon Valley School District, and I am concerned that students from rural districts like ours will be left behind on the Information Superhighway. I understand that you have been working toward the goal of ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to this Information Superhighway. I laud your efforts and ask for your continued support.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital.

We our a poor district that is large in area and located a distance from most telecommunication nodes. This means that our cost are greater than areas located close to a node. It also means our students are more isolated both geographically and culturally. Having access to the Internet will give our students an opportunity to interact on a global basis. If rates are low enough, it will also give us the opportunity to link the school with homes in the area giving parents access to up-to-date schedules, homework information and easy communication with teachers.

I urge you to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Stephen M. Belin

CC96-48

NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HC 1 BOX 200
LOYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 16659-9703

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

PHONE: (814) 766-2221

FAX: (814) 766-3772

April 24, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello

As Superintendent of the Northern Bedford County School District in Loysburg, Pennsylvania, I would like to thank you for your support for the pending Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan that would provide discounted services to schools like ours. Our district lies in a rural area of the state where connection to the Internet is especially difficult to secure and is more expensive than in most other areas. We continue to make every reasonable effort to provide similar learning opportunities and advantages to our students as are provided to students in more densely populated and wealthier areas and need help in that endeavor.

All three of our schools are located on a single campus with a technology plan scheduling the complete networking of every classroom and instructional area. Discounted cost in any form will help us realize that goal much earlier than originally planned.

The potential discounts which the Act would provide will help assure that our students leave Northern Bedford for further education and employment with advantages similar to students in other parts of the state and nation. Accordingly, I encourage you to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely



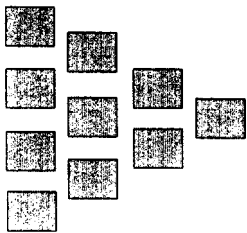
David B. Smith, Ed.D.
Superintendent

jf

APR 28 3 59 PM '97

JAMES H. QUAY
RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997



GODWIN

**HEIGHTS
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

RECEIVED

MAY 20 3 53 PM '97

High School • 50 - 35th Street, S.W., Wyoming, Michigan 49548 • (616) 245-0411

Fax: (616) 245-0200

JAMES QUELLO

April 21, 1997

James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Dear Mr. Quello

I am the principal of Godwin Heights High School in Wyoming, Michigan and I would like to thank you for your help in making sure that the students will have access to the Information Super Highway. Your work in keeping this affordable to schools is appreciated.

It is essential that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning opportunities. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will help guarantee quality, affordable service for all students as they prepare for tomorrow's work force. The \$2.25 billion a year will help all of our schools in their initiatives but rest assured the vital link in the program is the inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts.

Our district wide plan includes:

- *The installation of WAN and LAN to bring technology to the classroom where learning takes place.
- *To bring the Internet to each classroom in the district. We believe this to become incredibly important resource for student learning.
- *To install a distance learning classroom.

The district fully supports the use of technology, but needs discounts in services to make its plan affordable. We need the discounts for telecommunications services this year. I ask the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Michael Matlosz
Principal



Burlingame School District

RECEIVED

APR 23 3 42 PM '97

2303 Trousdale Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
Telephone [415] 259-3800
Fax [415] 259-3820

April 23, 1997

JAMES I. QUELLO

James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Board of Trustees

Mrs. Jean Fiske
Mr. Steven Glick
Mrs. Laurie Hoffman
Mrs. Mary Peros
Mrs. Lisa Rosenthal

MR. ROBERT E. BEUTHEL
SUPERINTENDENT

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from the Burlingame School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Hoffman

M.1 97.8

CC96-45

Public Schools of Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw

RAYMOND D. TIBERG
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DARRYL A. PIERCE
BUSINESS MANAGER

LAUREL A. HAMLIN
DISTRICT ACCOUNTANT

ROBERT E. LOUKUS
BUILDING & GROUNDS SUPERVISOR/
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

Calumet, Michigan 49913
PHONE: (906) 337-0311 FAX: (906) 337-1406
MICHIGAN'S MOST NORTHERN K-12 SCHOOL DISTRICT

APR 20
JAN 20
APR 21, 1997

DR. DAVID H. GILBERT, PRESIDENT
JOSEPH A. GALETTO, VICE PRESIDENT
CHERYL K. CARLSON, SECRETARY
DAVID E. CROWLEY, TREASURER
WANDA L. FRIMODIG, TRUSTEE
GERALD C. JARVEY, TRUSTEE
KAREN M. JOHNSON, TRUSTEE

Dear Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street
NW. Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the Superintendent of the Calumet, Laurium & Keweenaw School District in Michigan, and I would like to thank you for making it possible that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunication Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all schools, and will bring services directly to the classroom for students. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

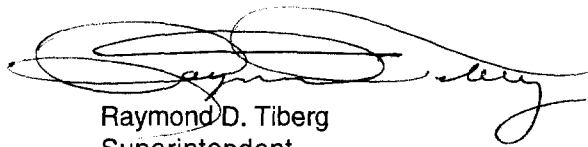
Calumet, Laurium, and Keweenaw School District is in the process of modernizing its curriculum and technology throughout all grade levels. The spearhead of this strive toward the future is a vast internal network that will service the near two thousand student, faculty, and staff that make up CLK Schools. We wish to offer our students the best possible technology to enable them to work effectively in an ever changing technologically oriented world. Our network will allow us to connect the district's computers to each other, as well as to the Internet.

It is our hope that we will be able to provide our students with the tools necessary to understand and employ the technologies that face them as adults. This means introducing them to technologies like email, the World Wide Web, network file sharing, etc. As you are well aware, implementing the technology required to reach these goals is very costly. Whether it be the purchase of computers for ready access, or the hubs, switches, servers, and even wiring that are needed is a very costly venture. Any discounts on these, or any other applicable, technologies is a great help. We at CLK Schools want the best for our students. We want to shoot for the moon, as the cliché says, but currently we are tied to the ground by the soaring costs of technologies.

Since our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I strongly urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Raymond D. Tiberg
Superintendent

RDT:dmw

MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**RR 1 BOX 314
HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 16651**

James J. Lebda, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

Scott E. King
Assistant Superintendent

APR 23 4 03 PM '97

Cheryl L. Pataky
High School Principal

JAMES J. LEBDA

Thomas C. Snyder
Elementary Principal

April 25, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

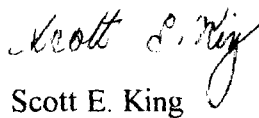
Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the Assistant Superintendent of the Moshannon Valley School District which is a small and rural district in central Pennsylvania. Working in the fiscal area, I can state that costs have been exceeding revenues which has forced us into the position of raising property taxes the last several years.

New developments in the area of technology are essential for preparing our students for the world of work but because of our budget situation must be carefully weighed against required expenditures. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will help provide the opportunity for school districts to connect to the Internet and enhance distance learning. Students will benefit in the classroom but the inclusion of internal connections for discounts is vital for a district such as ours that is so concerned about controlling costs.

We would like our students to be able to begin using the Internet in the 1997-98 school year but need the telecommunications discounts to make this economically feasible. Please support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Scott E. King